



News Notes

Atterbury Circle closure – Atterbury Circle will be closed to traffic from Thursday, 9 a.m. until Oct. 20.

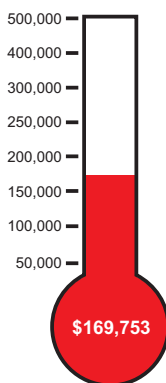
Power upgrade – The Hickam base electrical system is in the process of being upgraded. As a result, there have been and may continue to be power outages at locations across the base. Team Hickam appreciates base residents patience until the project is complete on or around Dec. 1. For more information, contact Mr. Henry Wong at 448-7845.

Scheduled power outages – Several homes will experience an electrical power outage in support of an environmental restoration project. The first outage is Monday, from 1 to 5 p.m. and Tuesday from 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, contact Rick McComb at 449-1584, extension 224.

Boofest – Boofest, a Halloween festival at Bellows Air Force Station, is today and Saturday from 6 to 10 p.m. The event includes a costume contest, food and face painting. For more information, call 259-4121.

Fire prevention parade – The Hickam Fire Department celebrates fire prevention week with a parade through Hickam Housing today from 5 to 6 p.m. A fire display will be held at the base exchange Oct. 14 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Team Hickam CFC



In this week's Kukini



Military Working Dogs, B1

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13th AF changes command

Lt. Gen. Utterback takes command, unit transforms into component headquarters

By Senior Master Sgt. Charles Ramey
13th Air Force Public Affairs

A one-year transformation of command and control of air, space and information operations in the Pacific ended here recently as 13th Air Force officially began operations as a component numbered air force headquarters and welcomed a new commander.

Former Pacific Air Forces Deputy Commander, Lt. Gen. Loyd S. "Chip" Utterback, assumed command of the unit Oct. 6, replacing Maj. Gen. Edward A. Rice, Jr., who had commanded 13th Air Force from Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, and Hickam since January 2005.

Previously designated as a management headquarters, 13th Air Force is now one of 10 organizations designed to enhance the operational level support, planning, command, control and execution of air, space and information operations capabilities across the full range of military operations throughout the U.S. Pacific Command's area of responsibility minus the Korea theater of operations.



Photo by Angela Elbern

Lt. Gen. Loyd "Chip" Utterback receives congratulations on his promotion prior to assuming command of the 13th Air Force.

ability minus the Korea theater of operations.

"We moved Headquarters, 13th Air Force from Andersen to Hickam more than a year ago to provide a core building block for Pacific Air Forces' new operational-level headquarters," said General Rice, now vice commander of Pacific Air

Forces. "We have already accomplished a great deal during this transition period and I am confident the increased command and control capability this headquarters brings to the Pacific region will continue to be of great value to U.S. Pacific Command in the years ahead."

Headquarters, 13th Air Force has

more than 650 permanently assigned military and civilian personnel serving at Hickam Air Force Base. The unit is also directly responsible for two Air Force wings, the 15th Airlift Wing, also located at Hickam, and the 36th Wing at Andersen Air Force Base.

See COMMANDER, A4

First responders test their mettle



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Shane Cuomo

Members from the Fire Department tend to an injured Airman during an emergency management exercise, Oct. 5. The Airmen were injured during a vehicle accident that caused an AIM-7 missile to fall on them. The EME is testing Hickam's ability to quickly and effectively respond to particular events.

dent that caused an AIM-7 missile to fall on them. The EME is testing Hickam's ability to quickly and effectively respond to particular events.

Personnel reductions imminent

By Kirsten Tacker
Kukini Photojournalist

This month civilian workers will receive letters, notifying them if they are going to be affected by the Jan. 6 civilian reduction in force.

Currently the Air Force Personnel Center is conducting the RIF that cancelled 14 occupied positions.

Every effort is being made to identify pre-RIF reassignments to minimize the impact on employees.

"What we are trying to do is find vacancies and reassign the affected employees," said Ms. Kuniyoshi. "We want to avoid the RIF and minimize the number of letters that have to be delivered this month."

There are basic factors of what qualifies an employee with higher retention standing.

"Tenure and veterans preference are the first two factors in retention standing," said Ms. Kuniyoshi. "The tenure of the employee is whether they are career or career conditional."

Employees receive 60 days advance notice of the RIF by law and during those 60 days they are registered into the Department of Defense priority placement program.

"By registering into the program they will be eligible for mandatory placement into vacancies on the island of Oahu for all DOD activities," said Ms. Kuniyoshi. "They could choose to register for some locations in the continental U.S., primarily the western states and the Pacific theatre."

See RIF, A4

RAAF throttles up on Hickam's C-17s

By Kirsten Tacker
Kukini Photojournalist

The Royal Australian Air Force currently has six crewmembers embedded in the 535th Airlift Squadron to prepare them for their first Globemaster III.

That is the immediate goal for both squadrons. The larger goal is to strengthen its continued relations between the U.S. and Australian Air Forces.

The RAAF will not have the same set up as Hickam's simulator and computer based training until 2010. Every six

months the RAAF will return here for training.

"In addition to taking these guys in and training them to fly the C-17, we want to bolster already good relations between the U.S. and Australia," said Capt. William Martin, 535th AS.

The 535th AS wants to promote what they've labeled as inter-operability.

"In the future our goal is if we need to fly missions together, we can do it with a very seamless transition," said Captain Martin. "Inter-operability is the eventual goal."

The 535th AS will illustrate to the RAAF how the C-17 operates in the Air Force system, while preparing crewmembers to be mission ready.

"In addition to that, we want to take them in and enhance their corporate knowledge by always flying with instructors," said Captain Martin. "This will increase their real world experience by flying as many missions as possible."

The 86 Wing Detachment A's Wing Commander, Linda Corbould, arrived on Sept. 30.

"We began working with

the U.S. Air Force when we were buying the airplanes back in Australia," said WGCDR Corbould. "Then we realized when we did our training we wouldn't have an airplane for about four months after we did the initial qualification at Altus Air Force Base, Oklahoma earlier this year."

In an effort to keep current and gain more experience after their training, the RAAF approached the U.S. Air Force to place their crewmembers into their

See RAAF, A4

SECAF, CSAF Letter to Airmen: Air Force Heritage

By Michael W. Wynne
Secretary of the Air Force and
Gen. T. Michael Moseley
Chief of Staff of the Air Force

To the Airmen of the United States Air Force

Just over 100 years ago, American inventors from Dayton, Ohio, ushered in the era of manned flight. Since then, adaptive and flexible Airmen in uniform have continued to innovate, pushing the limits of imagination and technology to dominate the Air, Space, and now Cyberspace, in an unrelenting quest to broaden our knowledge, expand our horizons, and ensure our nation's security. The United States Air Force's Air, Space, and Cyberspace power give our nation unprecedented and unparalleled military options - options no other nation has ever had. We have truly become something amazing.

Nearly sixty years ago, President Harry

Truman signed the National Security Act and on September 18, 1947 the United States Air Force became an independent service. This year, we commemorate the 60th Anniversary of our proud Service - born of revolutionary ideas, forged in combat, and proven through decades of progress and achievement. In doing so, we pause to reflect on our remarkable heritage, reaffirm our commitment to today's fight, and resolve to continually expand our reach toward our limitless horizons.

We have every reason to be proud when we reflect on our remarkable heritage. We've been led by innovative air power pioneers who overcame dangerous times, daunting challenges and terrible enemies. The list of our great captains goes on and on: Billy Mitchell, Hap Arnold, Tooey Spaatz, Curtis LeMay and Bennie Schriever come immediately to mind. Yet not all our air power heroes are household names. Over 54,000 coura-

geous Airmen have made the ultimate sacrifice in battle while serving our nation; still tens of thousands more bear the physical and emotional scars of our years of combat. It's fitting, then, that on October 14th, 2006, we will dedicate a long overdue Air Force Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, honoring the dedication, sacrifice and accomplishments of these courageous air and space power pioneers and warriors. This inspiring monument overlooking Washington, D.C., also pays tribute to the millions of Americans who have served in the world's finest Air Force, its predecessor organizations, the 700,000 Airmen who serve today across our Total Force, and the millions yet to serve.

As we remember, we must also reaffirm our commitment to our Core Values - Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do - which are the bedrock upon which we operate and build our future. We must also resolve to reinvigorate

our Air, Space and Cyberspace capabilities. So even while we're engaged in the current Long War, we're transforming ourselves into an information age force that will be able to dominate across our domains and have dislocating effects at all levels of war in this relatively new century. We're building on our history and soaring toward our horizon.

September 18th, 2006 marked the 59th birthday of the United States Air Force and the dedication of the Air Force Memorial will kick off our yearlong commemoration of six decades of global Air and Space Power. This year more than ever, let's embrace the fact that our boundless future builds on our glorious past and pay homage to the connection between the monumental achievements of America's pioneering Airmen and today's innovative war fighters. We remain amazed at today's Airmen and at the Air Force we have become. Thank you for what you do every day for our Air Force and our great nation!

Personal Choices and Social Pressure

By Lt .Col. John Keffer
56th Air and Space
Communications Squadron
commander

My wife and I recently arrived at Hickam from our previous assignment at Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany.

As we sat on our couch this summer to catch up on American TV, we were surprised not just by the hit shows that were in their third season that we had never heard of, but also by some of the trends in commercials. While we were used to the seeing many beer commercials during football games, the rules have evidently changed on showing commercials for other forms of alcoholic beverages. After more than one evening of watching dozens of adds for not just beer but also vodka, rum, tequila and other mixes I can't identify, my wife and I looked at each other and said, "Obviously, someone thinks that we don't drink enough".

For us it's a relatively

“ The less people drink, the less social pressure there is for others to do likewise ”

simple matter. My wife and I both come from families that were permanently scarred by alcohol misuse. We're able to have fun without the expense and risks of being under the influence.

There is also a strong correlation between alcohol use and our most troubling discipline issues in the Air Force, and society at large, from driving under the influence to other types of incidents such as domestic violence and sexual assault.

The military offers top notch recovery programs, and people who take the programs seriously have recovered and gone on to reach personal and career

goals that were unimaginable before they stopped drinking.

I've pondered if those of us who only occasionally drink, the so called social drinkers, aren't in a way enabling the people who have serious problems with alcohol. The less people drink, the less social pressure there is for others to do likewise. Particularly if someone close to you has a drinking problem and you drink along with them, or supply their need, you're enabling their problem. Sometimes the best way to be a friend is to not enable a bad habit.

I had one person in my last squadron that didn't re-evaluate his alcohol use until it was too late to save his career. At his very first dorm room inspection, he had what looked like a monument to drinking with the proudly displayed bottles of many varieties.

Squadron leadership counseled him. We checked back with him periodically. Two months later he blew over twice the legal limit in

a breathalyzer test coming in the back gate. He told our wing commander he didn't feel drunk so he decided it was alright to drive back to the dorms.

Later that day I received an urgent call from the Life Skills office telling me that our Airman was being admitted to a special rehab facility. While he had never shown up for duty drunk, it turns out he had not been sober for more than 18 hours since his early teens. I talked to the Airman the following day. At that point he had only been sober for less than 48 hours. He was amazed at the difference it made.

It's always healthy to periodically examine what you do and why. When it comes to alcohol, the social pressure to drink exists, but that doesn't mean that you have to follow along.

I encourage everyone to take the time to consider their drinking habits. Weigh the effects, not only on yourself, but also on those around you. We'll all be better for it.

Who wants to be a millionaire?

Chief Master Sgt. Wilson Resurreccion
Command Chief, 624th RSG

We all dream of hitting it big and being financially set for the rest of our lives. It would be nice if someone just handed you a million dollars, but most of us have to work to just make ends meet.

What happens when you retire and your income goes down? Most of us are not saving enough money to get through our golden years. Those of us who will receive a military retirement cannot rely on this retirement check alone. We need to also supplement our income by maximizing our Thrift Savings Plan, stocks and bonds and maybe buying a house as an investment. Maximizing TSP contributions is a great way of building a nest egg.

Have it taken out of your pay and watch it grow. If you think you can't afford to contribute think of this, if you didn't drink that \$5 coffee everyday and instead put it in your TSP account you would have saved \$1,825 in a year. I encourage people to check the program out at www.tsp.gov.

Another thing that is often overlooked is life insurance. No one talks about life insurance as much as we should, however, military members are fortunate that we have \$400,000 available to us for extremely low premiums. Not to mention the \$100,000 available to our spouse. For a 43-year-old, non-smoker, non-drinker a similar insurance policy in the private sector will cost \$200 a month for a 10, 20 or 30 year policy and over \$700 a month for a life time policy. You never know what will happen in life but we should always be ready for the unthinkable.

Always check personal information on a regular basis for changes and updates. Only you can ensure your information is correct. So take charge of your future

Action Line

The Action Line is your direct link to me so we can work as a team to make Hickam a better community. I urge you to use the normal chain of command first.

If you have done this and are still not satisfied, give my commander's Action Line a call.

If you would like me to get back to you, leave your name and number, state your issue, tell me who you have talked to and why you were not satisfied with their response.

I'll work your issue and respond verbally or in writing. The Action Line number is 449-2996. Messages may also be sent

by e-mail to 15aw.pal@hickam.af.mil.

Trampolines

Comment: I have concerns about the base's trampoline policy. I have recently seen a number of trampolines in housing. I called housing and inquired about the policy. I was told that a policy written December 2005 essentially calls only for the trampoline to have a safety net and the owner to sign a safety form. My concern is that this seems like a very minimal amount of safety where trampolines are concerned. Trampolines are one of the most common causes of trau-

matic injury in children, and a dependent wife on this base actually broke her neck on a trampoline a few years ago. My main concern is trampolines that are not in a fenced back yard. They could easily be entered by a child without the owners consent. This is especially possible if the owner is on leave. We are in a location where people take extended leaves to go back to the mainland. During any of these leaves an unattended trampoline can be a magnet for neighborhood children who always wanted to jump on one and know the owner is out. At my previous base trampolines had to be behind a fence. The fence can then act as a deterrent to keep chil-

dren out of the yard. I am concerned that the base policy does not help protect the safety of the community as much as it could. Also housing said that they doubt most of the people have signed the safety letter. This would then open the base to liability should anyone get injured on one of these trampolines which has been installed without going through the proper channels, as the housing should be checking for these safety hazards on a regular basis.

Response: Thank you for bringing this to my attention. I share your concerns for the safety of the Hickam Community. Trampolines

are allowed in housing, however, an AF Form 332, Base Civil Engineer Work Request, must be submitted and approved by the housing office. In addition, a Trampoline Safety Notice must be signed by the individual. Trampolines may be installed only in the back or side yards within a lockable fenced area, or with a lockable cover. A 10-foot clear zone in all directions is required, however, if this is unattainable due to the size of the yard, this requirement will be waived if a manufacturer's side safety net is installed around the trampoline. The owner must comply with all manufacturer's instructions to ensure the

trampoline is maintained and used in a safe and appropriate manner. Liability insurance is also strongly recommended. I have asked our housing flight inspectors to contact every housing resident who owns a trampoline to ensure they are in compliance with Air Force and base trampoline safety guidance. If you have additional questions or concerns please call Mr. Barret Tuck, Military Family Housing office at 448-3118, or Mr. Rick Cunefare, Hickam Community Housing office, at 423-2300. Again, thank you for looking out for the safety of members of the Hickam Community.

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Deadline for copy is noon Thursday for the following Friday's issue. Copy must be typed, double-spaced 12-point type, 300 - 500 words in length, and e-mailed to hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil.

Crisis Response lines

Hickam Family Support Center
449-0300
Life Skills Support Center
449-0175
Law Enforcement Desk
449-6373
Base Chaplain
449-1754
Military Family Abuse Shelter
533-7125
SARC Hotline
449-7272

JPAC searches for comrades lost in WWII

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Derrick C. Goode
JPAC photojournalist

On May 10, 1944, U.S. Army Air Force pilot 1st Lt. Stanley Dwyer and his B-17 bomber crew were shot down by German fighters over Vostenhof, Austria. Eight members of the crew bailed out but Lieutenant Dwyer and gunner Sgt. John Boros went down with the aircraft and were never recovered.

An 18-member recovery team from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command deployed from Hickam to Vostenhof, Austria, to attempt to recover Lieutenant Dwyer and Sergeant Boros.

"The mission of JPAC is to recover U.S. service members lost in our country's previous conflicts," said recovery team leader U.S. Army Maj. Mike Legler. "Whether it's Vietnam, Korea, World War II, or the civil war we are working hard to account for every service member lost."

Upon arrival in Austria the recovery team was greeted by the family of Lt. Dwyer, his younger brother Harold Dwyer, also a World War II B-17 pilot, his wife Darline, his daughter Kay Hughes, her husband Rick, and their children Melissa and Nathan.

"Having the family at the site adds a unique perspective to this mis-



Photo of the actual crash wreckage, May 10, 1944, donated by the land owner.

sion," said Dr. Jay Silverstein, forensic anthropologist for JPAC. "The first hand knowledge that Mr. Dwyer provided about the B-17 bomber was invaluable."

The team, which included an anthropologist, explosive ordnance disposal technician, field medic and German linguist, were deployed for 45-days which gave them the unique opportunity to get to know the family of one of the service members they were attempting to recover. It also gave the Dwyer family an opportunity to see the JPAC recovery team in action.

"I have really been impressed with

the dedication, professionalism, and unending determination of the service members on this team," said Harold Dwyer, "I brought my college-aged grandkids here so they could see our military at work, and I couldn't have found a better group of guys for them to spend time with."

Spending time with the family was also inspirational to members of the recovery team. Master Sgt. Rodney Acasio, the field medic, expressed how having the family there gave him a totally different perspective of the JPAC mission, "The Dwyer's really put a face on this mission for me," he said. "Mr.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Derrick Goode

U.S. Army Sgt. Robert Danford, JPAC, screens through soil attempting to find any human remains or aircraft wreckage in Vostenhof, Austria.

Dwyer told us stories about his brother, and we got to read a letter his brother wrote describing WWII from the perspective of a young American pilot."

The family had a memorial stone placed at the crash site and the family, JPAC team members, and Austrians from the area, held a memorial service to remember the crew members that were killed in 1944.

Senior Master Sgt. Frederick Smith, the team's linguist, said that he was really impressed by how eager and willing to help the Austrian people were.

"Some of the witnesses helping us were actually German Nazi soldiers who were trying to kill Americans in 1944," said Sergeant Smith, "now they're trying to help us find those soldiers so we can bring them home."

Unfortunately the team didn't find human remains on this mission, but JPAC will be returning to the area for another recovery mission in the future. The family did leave with a sense of hope, because during the first week of the mission a 1916 silver dime was found in the crater where a 500 lb. bomb detonated after the crash. Of the 10 members of the crew aboard the aircraft only one was born in 1916, and that was Lt Dwyer. His family is confident that he was carrying that dime, possibly as a good luck charm, on the day his aircraft went down. The team also found various pieces of life support from the aircraft and other personal effects from the crew.

"I'm a little disappointed that we weren't able to find human remains and have a definitive answer for the family," said Dr. Silverstein, "but we definitely know we're in the right area and it will only be a matter of time before we're able to bring our boys home."

Veteran returns to Bellows AFS after 65 years, recounts attack

By Tech. Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo
Air Force Print News

It's been almost 65 years since Raymond D. Stehle returned to Hawaii. Standing on the now paved dunes of an old air field, he completed a promise to his grand daughter to return to the peaceful island of Oahu to recount the day it was attacked.

At the time, Raymond was an Army Private assigned to Hickam Field but was later transferred across the island to nearby Bellows Army Air Field as an admin clerk. Like everyone else on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941, he had no idea that a major attack was about to begin on the island.

"I was sitting on my bed at 8:30 a.m., waiting for Mass to start," said Raymond. "A few minutes later I heard the drone of a single engine aircraft and the rattle of machine guns.

A lone Mitsubishi Zero was the first aircraft to drop out of the sky, strafing the tent area that housed about 80 enlisted residents assigned to the airfield. To avoid



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Shane Cuomo

Raymond D. Stehle, his granddaughter Sheila McQueen and son Vincent Stehle look over a historical map at Bellows Air Force Station, Hawaii. Mr. Stehle was stationed on then Bellows Army Air Field when the Japanese attacked it Dec. 7, 1941.

the hale of machine gun fire soldiers started jumping into ditches, hiding behind buildings and whatever else could shield them.

"Almost immediately," Raymond said, "We have to do something."

Raymond and a group of soldiers did, they ran up to the armory,

broke down the door, and started handing out the guns and ammunition. "We were in the armory for 15 to 20 minutes getting the guns and ammunition ready ... then more Japanese came."

Coming in from the north, nine Japanese planes flew in a V shaped

formation and lined up for the attack. The gunfire raid started with a diving attack by all nine of the planes. The sound of 20 millimeter cannons and machine guns filled the air as the Japanese attacked the aircraft on the ground and strafed Bellows Field.

"When they came around for the second pass it didn't matter that they fired at us because we waited to fire on them," said Raymond. "The strafing and return gun fire went on for 20 minutes, they went away and another group came and that went on for another 20 minutes," he said. "Then it was over."

But it felt like the calm before the storm, because after the attack, almost everyone believed a land invasion would follow.

"We ended up in a sandbag machine gun revetment on the beach waiting for the invasion," said Raymond. But it never came. "Why would they do that with no invasion?" he asked.

Today there is still some evidence of the old flying field days. From the beach the runways extend inland until they disappear with the

landscape and several landmarks are still visible.

It's only because of encouragement from his son and the persistence of his granddaughter that Raymond finally returned to Bellows after all these years.

"He started talking about his war stories when I was younger," said Shelia McQueen, Raymond's granddaughter. "In the seventh grade he came to my school and gave a great presentation on what life was like in Hawaii and in the 1940's," she said. "I was very determined to get the stories out of him."

After many conversations with his granddaughter and an offer to help from his son Vincent, Raymond couldn't resist the idea to revisit Hawaii.

"My son and my granddaughter are my right hand and left hand," said Raymond. "I couldn't have done it without them."

In the end Raymond kept his promise to his granddaughter, "It is a real honor to be able to hear my grandfather tell his stories," said Shelia.

C-17 air crews prep for air show

By Tech. Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo
Air Force Print News

Hickam based C-17 Globemaster III crews will be showcasing their aircrafts' unique capabilities in an upcoming air show in Australia this month. This marks the first time a Pacific based C-17 will participate in such an event.

In preparation for this milestone, a crew flew their C-17 to Kona International Airport putting the jet through the performance maneuvers that best demonstrates the cargo aircrafts' capabilities.

"Each maneuver was executed with exact timing and precision," said Master Sgt. Rich Moody, 15th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron section chief and narrator for the air show. "The pilots training flight was in perfect coordination with the script," said Moody.

The C-17 concentrated on two

10-minute routines and one 12-minute routine with the highlight of both performances being a high-speed pass over the runway at 500 feet followed by a teardrop maneuver that aligns the aircraft with the runway prior to accelerating the giant Pratt and Whitney engines to the sound of 40,000 lbs of thrust demonstrating both the speed and rapid strategic capability of the airplane.

Later in the routine, the C-17 maneuvered to show its ability to fly at slow speeds showcasing its advanced aerodynamics in action. The goal is to demonstrate agility at both high and low speeds and ease of operation in any tactile situation including combat delivery of paratroopers or equipment airdrops.

While on static display at the air show, another of Hickam's C-17 crews will explain how the aircrafts advanced design allows it to accomplish its missions with

a minimum of only three crewmembers.

The responsive nature and flexibility of the aircraft will be demonstrated by showing the C-17s capability to routinely back under its own power highlighting the aircraft's ground maneuverability in limited space to off load equipment and cargo, often in austere locations.

Since the C-17's arrival in the Pacific Theater it has gained attention from other Pacific nations. Being on display in Australia will further demonstrate Pacific Air Forces global mobility commitment to the Pacific.

"We are doing the air show demo to upgrade three pilots so we can demonstrate the C-17 capabilities to the Australian and the Australian Air Force," said Capt. John Reed, 535th Airlift Squadron pilot.

"The training was excellent," he said.

Airman earns Bronze star

By Senior Airman Erin Smith
Kukini editor



An Airman here was awarded his second Bronze Star Medal, Oct. 5 in a ceremony at the Courtyard of Heroes.

Lt. Col. Charles Carr, Pacific Air Forces, Inspector General office, deployed to the 732nd Expeditionary Mission Support Group at Balad Air Base, Iraq where he served as the deputy commander.

During his time in Iraq, Colonel Carr was the deputy for the largest Air Force group in Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he was responsible for 1,300 Airmen in 44 locations.

"His coaching and mentorship to all levels of command ensured the 732nd Expeditionary Mission Support Group remained one of the most effective and focused in the war effort," Said Col. Frank Sullivan, 732nd Expeditionary Mission Support Group commander. "He is singularly the most signif-

icant influence of any single person in 732nd EMSG and his leadership permeated throughout the group and every squadron."

Though he survived more than 153 mortar, rocket and small arms fire attacks and traveled thousands of miles around Iraq in convoys, he was humbled to receive the award and gave credit back to the Airmen who worked with him during his tour, as well as his family..

"It is my hope that I can bring honor to the award," said Colonel Carr. "In all this fanfare, we must never lose site of the real heroes; those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, those wounded in combat, and those who serve without being recognized. Let us also not forget the families of those that serve. I think we forget sometimes just what our loved ones go through as we serve."

COMMANDER, From A1

“Hickam serves as the nerve center for Pacific air and space power,” said General Utterback. “The new component construct gives the commanders of U.S. Pacific Air Forces and U.S. Pacific Command a 24/7 combat capability and a standing organization to immediately place additional forces under to execute operations in support of theater and national objectives.”

With any new organization comes changes, and 13th Air Force is no different. During ceremonies Oct. 6, five units, the 502nd Air Operations Group, 56th Air and Space Operations Squadron, 56th Air and Space Plans Squadron, 26th Air and Space Intelligence Squadron, and the Pacific Air Forces Air Mobility Operations Control Center, were inactivated as two new units, the 613th Air and Space Operations Center and the 613th Support Group were activated.

“Making these changes brings us in line with the Air Force's vision for the component organization and allows us to better command, con-

trol and employ joint air and space forces across the full spectrum of peacetime and potential combat operations. We will be more effective, efficient and lethal in employment of airpower,” General Utterback said.

With a core of more than 200 assigned personnel, the 613th AOC is responsible for one the Air Force's five fully-capable air and space operations centers. In case of a contingency that requires additional manning, the 613th AOC has trained Air National Guard augmentation forces that can be in place in a very short time and can source further manning from the active force as required.

The 613th Support Group maintains a consolidated commander's support staff providing personnel support for the entire headquarters; an operational support flight providing facility, training, readiness, and security management; and has two subordinate units: the 56th Air and Space Communications Squadron and the 17th Operational Weather



Photo by Angela Elbern
Gen. Paul Hester, Pacific Air Forces commander, passes the 13th Air Force guidon to Lt. Gen. Loyd “Chip” Utterback during the change of command ceremony here Oct. 6. He replaces 13th AF commander Maj. Gen. Edward A. Rice, Jr.

Squadron.

The remainder of Headquarters, 13th Air Force, is part of the commander's Air Force Forces staff. Organized functionally with a command section, personal staff and A-staff, the AFFOR staff supports the 13th Air Force commander in his role as the senior U.S. Air Force component commander with-

in a joint force.

According to General Utterback, 13th Air Force presents the commander of U.S. Pacific Command with state of the art capabilities to conduct his mission. “Our friends and allies in this region can sleep better because, regardless of the situation, America's Airmen are ready.”

Crime Scene

Shoplifting

An active-duty Air Force spouse was detained at the BX for shoplifting.

An active-duty Air Force spouse was detained at the BX for shoplifting.

A retired Navy spouse and an active-duty Air Force spouse were detained at the BX for shoplifting.

Minor vehicle accident

A Security Forces patrol arrived at a minor vehicle accident. An active-duty Navy member was hit by an active-duty Navy spouse.

An active-duty Air Force member and an active-duty Air Force spouse reported a minor vehicle accident. The active-duty Air Force member reported while backing their vehicle they struck a fire hydrant.

Verbal dispute

An active-duty Air Force member reported his spouse

was involved in a verbal dispute with a neighbor.

Theft of personal property

An active-duty Navy spouse member reported two scuba oxygen tanks valued at \$300 were stolen.

An active duty Air Force member reported his vehicle damaged and broken into. Their steering wheel, shift knob and an air intake were missing.

Damage to personal property

An active-duty Air Force member reported damage to a vehicle. Estimated cost of damage is \$250.

An active duty Air Force member reported his vehicle's front left quarter panel had a dent with paint transfer.

Hit and run

A contractor reported damage to his vehicle. Damage consisted of a dent approximately eighteen inches by twenty-four inches in length on the rear driver side of the quarter panel.

RIF, From A1

There are opportunities in the DOD PPP for the affected employees and they receive priority replacement to those different jobs.

There are a few more ways to place the employees prior to enrolling in the DOD PPP, which generate vacancies for those being displaced.

“The whole goal is to minimize the disruption to the workforce,” said Ms. Kuniyoshi. “We want to minimize loss of pay or anything that would adversely effect the

employees.”

The worst-case scenario is if an employee becomes separated because of this RIF. Measures are being utilized to avoid complete separation, but if they are separated the government will provide 18 months of continued health benefits coverage.

“I don’t think this RIF is going to be wide spread,” said Ms. Kuniyoshi. “We are talking primarily to those occupations that are in our regional supply center.”

Ms. Kuniyoshi is assured that management and senior leadership are doing everything to minimize impact of this RIF.

“In the event that we have to take some actions on people to reduce their grade or separate, there are programs already in place that will help them retain their pay and continue to meet their financial obligations,” concluded Ms. Kuniyoshi.

Call Civilian Personnel at 449-0122 for more information on personnel reductions.

RAAF, From A1

squadrons.

“We have six located here at Hickam, three pilots and three loadmasters and six at McChord Air Force Base,” she said. “Everyone here's been great and the appreciation has been great. People have looked after us.”

Currently some the crew are on trips to Alaska and Japan.

“We need to train and get experience flying the C-17 until we get our first airplane. We are definitely getting more

experience,” said WGCDR Corbould.

The RAAF pilots and loadmasters have amassed many different experiences here. One of their loadmaster's first missions was to Biggs Army Airfield, Texas.

“It was moving the terminal high altitude area defense weapon system,” said Warrant Officer John Maddigan, 86 WD A. “We picked up the equipment and took it to Barking Sands in Kauai.”

Acclimating to the systems

and the process of getting airborne on a C-17 compared to a C-130 took some modifications.

“The task was a big eye opener for us, because we traditionally have operated small aircraft, the C-130's,” he said. “The task is quite different from what we would normally be doing. We'd moved pallets and people around in a logistics role before, but the dynamics of what you carry on this aircraft are just out of this world for us.”



Editor's Note: To read the complete stories and find more Air Force News, go to www.af.mil.

'Spirit of McChord' gives Canadians a lift

MANAS AIR BASE, Kyrgyzstan (AFPN) – Normally they move people, humanitarian supplies, troop rations and equipment, but Airmen with the 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron's Detachment 1 here were tasked Oct. 7 to move different equipment -- several 30-foot, 100,000 pound Canadian tanks.

The C-17 Globemaster III "Spirit of McChord" and its crew made two trips to Kandahar AB, Afghanistan, in one day to transport the equipment for Canadian ground forces supporting the NATO mission.

Col. Michael McLean, Canadian Defense Attaché, said the Leopard tanks will support Canadian troops by providing greater mobility on the ground and more flexible options.

"The enhancements will enable troops to counter threats more effectively and safely," said Colonel McLean. "The sooner we can provide the security and stability, the sooner we can help the Afghan people develop a positive and independent

Seasoned PJ trains next generation



Photo by Technical Sgt Cecilio M. Ricardo

Airman 1st Class Kevin Freyre carries Airman 1st Class Nathan Greene to safety at a simulated helicopter crash scene after performing self aid and buddy care techniques during a mass casualty incident exercise at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., Oct. 6. The exercise is part of the pararescue recovery specialist course at the Pararescue and Combat Rescue Officer School.

future for themselves and their children." (Story by Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle, 376th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs)

Cleanup program on fast track

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AFPN) – When Andrews Air Force Base, Md., was placed on the Environmental Protection Agency's National Priorities

List of contaminated sites in 1999, environmental restoration program managers estimated it would take until 2014 and millions of dollars to remedy the sites.

With 23 sites and 10 areas of concern, Air Mobility Command officials estimated the potential cost to remedy in place, or RIP, was as high as \$180 million. Since then, the outlook for the cleanup program has changed considerably.

"We expect to reach RIP at

all our restoration sites by the end of 2009," said Brian Dolan, Andrews' environmental restoration chief, "and with our performance-based strategy, we'll save money as well."

AF prepares to dedicate memorial

SAN ANTONIO (AFPN) – Fifteen years after conception of the Air Force Memorial, construction is nearing completion this week in preparation for its dedication ceremony by officials Oct. 14 in Arlington, Va.

The memorial, located on a promontory overlooking Arlington Cemetery, features stainless steel spires that punctuate the skyline 270 feet high and illustrate the bomb-burst flying formation made famous by the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds Demonstration Team. It was designed by architect James Ingo Freed, who passed away in December.

As the nation's newest service and the last branch of the armed forces to have a dedicated memorial, the Air Force is set to observe 60 years of global air and space supremacy Sept. 18, 2007. Just as the Air Force Memorial honors Airmen who have served, are on active duty and those who

will join, activities commemorating the service's 60th anniversary pay tribute to the dedication, sacrifice and contributions of those who pioneered the skies ahead of us. (Story by Master Sgt. Daniel Elkins, Air Force Print News)

Bush condemns North Korean nuclear test claim

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – North Korea's claim that it conducted its first-ever nuclear test today constitutes a threat to international peace and security, President Bush said this morning at the White House.

"The United States condemns this provocative act," he said. Bush said the U.S. is still working to confirm the North Korean claim.

South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported the apparent nuclear test was conducted in Hwaderi, North Korea. The U.S. Geological Survey said it had detected a tremor of 4.2 magnitude on the Korean Peninsula. (Story by Steven Donald Smith, American Forces Press Service)

**Breast cancer awareness
scrapbook crop day**

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and the Arts and Crafts Center is holding a special scrapbook crop day Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call 449-1568.

**Pre-teen Halloween
costume party**

Join other zombies, skeletons and Sponge Bob Squarepants at this Youth Programs party Saturday evening from 6 to 9 p.m. for a costume party. Enter the costume or dance contest, scream at monster movies and devour hotdogs and drinks. The \$3 gets you in the door. Buy glow sticks and snacks for just a little more. For just a little more information, call 448-2296.

**Fall Craft Fair and Family
Fun Day crafter's booth
registration**

Crafter's booth registration for the Hickam 31st Annual Craft Fair and Family Fun Day begins Saturday at 8 a.m. and continues until Nov. 3. The fair takes place Nov. 4. Booth space costs \$65 for an individual or \$85 for a shared booth. After Saturday, regis-

ter at the Arts and Crafts Center Gallery Tuesdays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 449-1568, ext. 101 or 102.

Teen read week

Teen Read Week begins Monday. Learn how to win a portable DVD player by calling the Hickam Library at 449-8299.

Start sailing right course

The Start Sailing Right course provides group instruction on the Rhodes 19-foot, Catalina 14-foot and Laser 12-foot sailboats and begins Monday and Wednesday evening. Classes then continue on the evenings of Oct. 23, 25, 30 and Nov. 1 and a one-on-one lesson with the instructor will be arranged for a Saturday. Participants must be at least 16 years old. The \$167 tuition includes US Sailing materials, training and boat rentals. For more information, call 449-5215.

**Youth basketball
registration**

Youth Basketball registration begins Monday and continues until Nov. 10. Practice begins Dec. 4 and the season starts Jan. 6. Kids born

between 1990 and 2001 are eligible to join and must have a current physical and birth certificate. The cost is \$65 per child plus a \$25 membership fee. For more information, call 448-2296.

**Kayaking/snorkeling trip
to Rabbit Island**

Register by Wednesday to join this kayaking and snorkeling excursion to Rabbit Island, near Makapu'u Beach Oct 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. It's a challenging paddle with views of bird sanctuaries and the Makapu'u Lighthouse. The fee of \$35 per person includes a kayak, two instructors and transportation. Snorkel gear can be rented from Recreation Equipment Issue by calling 449-6870. For more information about the excursion, call 449-5215.

**Enlisted Club special
notices**

Due to special functions Wednesday, J.R. Rockers will not be offering its usual main events.

There will be no Mongolian barbeque or main events at the Enlisted Club on Thursday. For more information, call 448-2271.

**Croptoberfest scrapbook
night**

This chilling scrapbook night at the Arts and Crafts Center will be haunted with spooky themes and frightening sightings Thursday from 5 to 9:30 p.m. Examine eerie orange desserts and create a Croptober page or layout to win a prize. For more information, call 449-1568.

Tailgate sale

One man's treasure might be found in another man's tailgate. The next Tailgate Sale is Oct. 21 from 7 to 10 a.m. in the Burger King parking lot. For more information, call 449-2361.

**Injury prevention and
exercise progression
workshop**

Learn more about proper exercise techniques and prevent injuries. This Aerobics and Fitness Association of America workshop expands knowledge of muscle and joint actions and teaches about the mechanisms of injury as well as rehabilitation tech-

niques. The workshop is Oct. 20 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and tuition is \$96.75. To register, call the provider at 1-805-988-5845. For more information, call the Fitness and Sports Center at 448-2214.

**New Sea Breeze lunch
buffet menu**

Sea Breeze Restaurant has a new lunch buffet menu every Tuesday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$10.50 for the buffet or \$7.50 for the soup and salad bar. For more information, call 449-9900.

O'Club seafood buffet

Every Friday night is a Boston Sea Party in the Officers' Club dining room from 6 to 10 p.m. Entrees include crab, prime rib, shrimp, scallops, mussels and clams. It's \$27.95 with a \$3 Members First Discount available. For more information, call 448-4608.

NAF Sale continues

The non-appropriated funds property sale will continue

until further notice. The sale is held at the old enlisted club, Bldg. 422 by Pool #2 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call 448-4258.

AEF Homecoming

Stop by the aerospace expeditionary force Homecoming Oct. 20 from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Community Center parking lot to say. The event is free to all Returnees and their families. For more information, see your unit first sergeant or call the Community Center at 449-2361.

One-day tour to Moloka'i

Prepare for departure Oct. 21 on a one-day island-hop tour of Moloka'i.

Fly in a luxury charter and experience a fully narrated tour of the historical Kalaupapa settlement.

The cost is \$315 per person. For more information, call Information, Tickets and Travel at 448-2295.